

10/031671
531 Rec'd PCT/PT 17 JAN 2002
Atty. Docket No. QUE04 P-311
Express Mail No. EL703563360US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Helmut Gross et al.

For : DEVICE FOR DIE CUTTING A STACK CONSISTING OF
SHEET-TYPE MATERIALS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Before examination, please amend the specification and claims as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The frame portion and the primary clamping beam are thus charged with accommodating the clamping elements for fixation of the die-cutter blade. These clamping elements, which are, in particular, formed as clamping shoes, fix the die-cutter on sides of the die-cutter blade facing away from one another, such that the clamping elements of the primary clamping beam, under the influence of the clamping agents of the secondary clamping beam, press the die-cutter blade into the clamping elements of the frame. Once the clamping elements for the die-cutter blade have been brought largely into position and pre-tensioned, and the slideably frame-mounted primary clamping beam is also held relatively firmly – however so that it can still be slid – within the frame, the similarly slideable secondary clamping beam is positioned near the primary clamping beam and firmly tightened. By adjusting the clamping agents that contact the primary clamping beam, the die-cutter blade is firmly fixed between the clamping elements as a consequence of the primary clamping beam's slight relocation. The firm connection is then established between the primary clamping beam and the frame, wherewith the die-cutter blade is held particularly firmly to the frame.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 27, with the following rewritten paragraph: